

Subject: Korotych Vitali

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During his stay in Madison, Wisc. Subject got in touch with two local Ukrainian -American physicians, Dr GALARNYK Ihor and Dr DUDIAK, fnu, both stemming from West Ukraine, and post -war immigrants. Pretty soon they became friends and Subject used to spend most of his time at their homes. GALARNYK and DUDIAK do not belong to any emigre parties but definitely are Ukrainian patriots and anti-communists.

Through GALARNYK and DUDIAK Subject got in touch with KONOVAL Oleksa and ZAVERTAYLO Danylo, both of Chicago, Ill. and known URDP activists. On their initiative a reading poetry evening was arranged for Subject to take place on 25 Mar 1967 in Chicago, Ill. They also introduced Subject to KOLOMIYETS Yuri of Chicago, Ill.

On 24 Mar 1967 KONOVAL and ZAVERTAYLO brought Subject by car to Chicago, Ill. and accommodated him in a hotel. The poetry reading took place next day at the Restaurant Przybyla in Chicago and was sponsored by the Debating Club headed by Dr Thoma LAPICHAK of Chicago, Ill. The poetry evening lasted from 20.15 to 22.30 hrs; Dr LAPICHAK introduced the Subject and KOLOMIYETS Yuri made a short speech about present literary affairs in the Ukraine making a few critical statements. Later on, Subject referring to Kolomiyets' speech, remarked that he could not agree with all that was ~~said~~ said by Kolomiyets but did not want to go deeper into those controversial topics.

On 26 Mar 1967 Subject was guest at a dinner arranged privately by some local Ukrainian American physicians at Marina City Restaurant in Chicago Ill. There were about 25 persons altogether. The dinner lasted from 17.00 to 22.00 hrs approx. Subject did again some poetry reading but most of the time was spent on small talks, toasts, etc.

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On both occasions Subject tried very hard to ingratiate himself with the public and win its sympathy at the expense of some vague criticism of ~~xxx~~"regime bureaucrats", well pretended sincerity and openness, and his genuine undisputable wit and charm. He fully succeeded though this did not prevent ^{the} public from putting ^{to him} some "awkward" questions about various aspects of Ukrainian affairs in the Ukraine. Most of these very "controversial" topics Subject circumvented by stating that he was not competent or knowledgeable in "high politics" or by a standard "but you obviously know how it is yourself..."

While in Chicago, Ill. Subject met among others with ROZHIN Ivan, who personally knew Subject's father from Kiev.

On 27 Mar 1967 Subject planned to visit a local Radio Station and the Western Uni., but somehow was not able to owing to some confusion among his local American sponsors who failed to properly prepare his arrival. In the evening same day he left back for Madison, Wisc.

Following is the gist of what Subject has told on various occasions during his sojourn in Chicago, Ill.:

1. Replying to the first question put to him at the poetry reading, i.e. about recent arrests and trials of Ukrainian intellectuals in the Ukraine, Subject said that indeed "in the course of those sad events" 24 people were arrested and 18 of them were still in prison. The arrests took place in Lvov, Kiev, Ivanofrankivsk, and other cities. Subject hoped, however, that in 1967, at the 50th anniversary of the October revolution they would be released "in the course of an amnesty announced on this occasion". The Union of Writers of Ukraine (SPU) could not intervene on their behalf officially because there were no members of the SPU among them. DEIUBA Ivan was neither arrested nor interrogated. Ivan SVITLICHNY was only arrested but not sentenced.

There were individual interventions of various people from the SPU and other intellectual circles, and certainly they must have been taken into account by "authorities" "but you know yourself how it is"...

2. DZIUBA Ivan is wasting his time in the Biochemical Journal and efforts are made to get him to the Publishing House "Radiansky Pysmennyk". Much will depend, however, on DZIUBA himself and let's hope he won't make any silly moves again...

KOSTENKO Lina has isolated herself from the world, refuses to publish anything though three of her collections are ready. She is somewhat strange and Subject could not say what she actually wanted.

On the whole Subject tried to imply that KOSTENKO was definitely on a wrong way and not everything was in order with her. He retreated, however, very soon when he discovered that this idea did not meet with the public's approval.

PAVLYCHKO Dmytro had definitely gone too far with his poem against the emigration but Subject was sure he wrote it before his meetings with ^{Pavlychko} emigres in the States. Anyway Subject would never write like ~~him~~ and what he wrote about Canada he was not to be ashamed of.

3. In the near future special visits of Ukrainian writers and artists are scheduled to take place in Siberia to meet with Ukrainian population there. Also Ukrainian broadcasts are planned for Ukrainians in Siberia. Asked whether it was mainly caused by Chinese "courtship", Subject replied, "Probably, this is it".

4. Subject is all for cultural contacts between the Ukraine and emigration and on this occasion mentioned that KOLANKIVSKY Mykola of Toronto had already entered into negotiations with Kiev on the matter of exchange of artistic exhibits.

Subject stressed that Kiev is interested in development of cultural relations with such apolitical groups as New Yorker poets and with scholars like SHEKHX, FLIZER, PRITSAK, and others. In his opinion those people could help a lot in improving things in the Ukraine.

He had, however, one critical note about the New Yorker poets, namely, they were writing mostly "for themselves" whereas Subject personally was in favor of a poetry "for readers", or, as he explained it, for

communication with people.

5. Vasyl SYMONENKO'S mother is quite well off. She receives pension and royalties for her son's books. On this occasion Subject attacked Shlach peremohy, Homin Ukrainy, and then added Kanadiysky Farmer. He also mentioned Suchasnist and ironically remarked that although it was one of better magazines abroad, quite often the articles in it were rather unbalanced. Smilingly he said: "Take for instance recent articles that came in the course of present crisis in Suchasnist". But in general, "it has both, good and bad articles".

6. According to Subject, Ukrainians from West Ukraine who have moved to Kiev, are helping a lot in Ukrainizing the capital of the Ukraine.

7. In Subject's opinion, Cardinal SLIPYI behaved quite well while abroad and Subject thought he could return to Soviet Union any time he wanted.

8. SHELEST and SHECHERBYTSKY are good Ukrainians, and SHELEST'S speech at the Congress of Ukrainian Writers last November is of great importance.

9. There is much trouble with the youngest generation in the Soviet Union. A superficial imitation of everything Western blended with local bohemianism creates a new type of a young individual void of idealistic and constructive motivation. Followingly, not the generation of shestydesiatniki but post-shestydesiatniki cause a real problem for society.

10. Kiev has ~~a good~~ ^{the best} opera but ~~dramatic~~ ^{& the} theatre is no good. Responsible for that are partly some Ukrainian conservative circles in the theater itself. But Subject said that soon a new modern theater will be established in Kiev.

is in the Soviet Union

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11. Christmas 1967 ,for the first time, student and other choirs were singing carols visiting people in Kiev. Subject named a student choir called Zhayvoronok (Nightingale) and a church choir in which even some members of Bandurysty Ensemble were performing. This should serve as an example of relative relaxation.

12. Every year in March students and other people gather at Shevchenko's Statue in Kiev , read poetry , and "demonstrate". Authorities have already got used to it. Similar demonstrations take place in Kaniv, at Shevchenko's grave. One year there was a gathering of various choirs which numbered over 6,000 people. "You can imagine how they were singing."

13. Widespread in recent years erection of monuments to Shevchenko, Lesia Ukrainka, Franko, and other Ukrainian figures , are usually initiated by private people and communities themselves. "Authorities" only take notice of them and give permission. Financial means come also from private people, clubs, and communities.

14. About himself : his wife is Russian and an engineer, his father - a biologist. His son Andriy likes his grandparents and spends much time with them. A few years ago Subject spent several weeks at Pochayivska Lavra to get an insight into religious life. He talked to many monks, tried to find out what makes them tick, also. But he had nothing to do with administrative measures against Pochayivska Lavra of which he was accused at one time by Kanadiysky Farmer.

15. At the very beginning of his poetry reading Subject smilingly declared that before his departure for the States he had to sign two declarations, one : that he will return home, and another: that he won't be involved in any political activities in the States.

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